



Little Lambs Inc.

John & Eileen Sala Prison and Teaching Ministry

<http://www.littlelambsinc.org>

PO Box 504 @ 710 S. Eucalyptus St. Sebring, FL 33871-0504 863-273-6075 January 2022

Dear Darian, (*response to the letter on page two*)

Thank you so much for your letter and I'm very happy that you wrote us. You see, John died in 2013 after a very hard surgery. His legacy was teaching and showing us how to minister to people like you. John and I started the ministry in 1995 and myself and volunteers still continue today.

You are a young person. John loved young people. He remembered his struggles at that age and how it defined his life forever. John was big into the music scene too. He made all the clubs and bands in New York. He mixed with the 'big names' on the band scene. He loved dancing. However, this scene was rife with drugs and alcohol. He drank with them, he used with them. Of course he learned how to be one of the crowd. At 70, John knew all his 'friends' had died, overdosed, and one sad case was in a nursing home at a young age, not knowing who he was.

You mentioned that you created MTM Productions. You will be in the music scene too. Yes, there is a lot of talent out there. You are in recovery, as we call it. John was in recovery too. That meant for us, that we could not socialize in places where alcohol was sold or consumed, ever! We could not be friends with people who used, ever. He did have a good friend that he did time with in Florida with him, who later returned to crack and tried to entice John to join him. Please let me warn you. There are people all around you that want to steal you testimony and your sobriety. You must establish and publish your boundaries and they must apply to everyone: no drugs or alcohol, especially in your new music venture. That way you can be sure that you are not a part of anyone's fall or your own!

I want the best for you and your relationship with the Lord. Let me tell you what being an addict in recovery should be. Being married to an addict in recovery meant that we could never have alcohol or drugs in the house, or go to family or any functions where it was served. We had to choose only godly friends. We wanted to help people recover their lives but they must want to recover too. After they become sober and want sobriety, then we can have relationships with them. We can always pray for them, but we understood that John was always in danger. He had a history of 27 years of addiction starting at an early age. Please do not think that you were only a little addicted. You started as a juvenile, before your brain matured. Brain mature at 25-26 years of age, so early drug use affects the brain more. John started early too. He was deeply addicted. Our ministry provided a safe place for him from all these dangers.

I rarely write so close the heart but you are young. Let God determine your career. Get God involved in everything you do! The most important thing you can do is guard your relationship with the Lord and keep it growing. Never let it fall because of inattention to Him. Surround yourself with godly people. Pray that you don't fall into temptation! Keep learning about Him.

Working with at risk youth should be safe if you build all these safeguards into your life. To protect your sobriety, you should not marry an unbeliever, (active addict, even a recreational user) because, let's face it, their god is the drug. The Lord says that you are not to be unequally yoked with an unbeliever, not even in a business contract! The lure of passion and fame and fortune will blind a man or at least not let him see clearly where he is going until it is too late. God warns us about 'what profits a man if he gain the whole world, but lose his own soul! Matt. 16:26

I will pray for you that God gives you the desires of your heart, something reserved for those delight themselves in the Lord and commit their way to Him. Psa 37

Eileen Sala



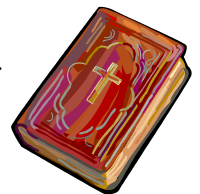
Dear John,

I'm Darian, as you can see from my envelope, I'm currently incarcerated in a juvenile prison. If you're wondering how I got your address, I just recently finished your book, "I'm Not Coming Back." I don't really know how to explain it, so all I can say is I can relate. I wasn't as heavily involved in drugs as you but I was around it, hanging with people who had nothing going for them. I realized that I can't save everyone. I take accountability though I've made a handful of dumb choices that led me here. I pray everyday and go to every chapel service. In July, my best friend lost his life due to an accidental overdose. I accidentally overdosed a year prior on the same drug. I've seen the damage drugs can do to a person. Prior to being incarcerated, I made a Music Media Promotion Company called "MTM Productions. The Instagram and TikTok pages are currently being ran by 2 close positive friends due to me being incarcerated. My motive behind MTM is to become an outlet for at risk youth. Almost everyone makes music these days, so I put their music out there and I pick a couple people a month to bring to a professional studio free of charge. I made MTM because there is so much local and underground Talent that have not made it, only because the right people haven't heard them, Check out my pages! Write me back ASAP@ God bless. (Our response on page one)

Dear Salas, Hello, and how are you al doing. Blessed I hope and pray. My name is Ray and I'm currently writing to you from Bill Clements Unit in Texas. I received a letter from you in 2019 and I must admit I never wrote back or did the bible study. I would like to apologize for that. I was too busy still being a sinner and drug abuser. I've gotten into some trouble lately and I'm just tired of steadily going through these same situations and negativity in my life. Can you help me please? Right now I'm locked in a cell for 24 hours a day and it's mighty depressing. But I look to God for support and also I would love for you all to be my mentors. I need recovery and growth and I'm willing to do my part! I want my life back y'all. I really do! I never forgot about you all and God placed it on my heart to write you and I didn't even have paper to write but I did find this. God is good all the time, Amen! I pray that y'all are save during these times please write me back and stay prayed up. Love y'all. Ray *Ray also sent us a poem.*

Graduates Writes:

Dear John & Eileen Sala, Thinking of you for all the good deeds you did in a Christian act of Love for me in the Bible Study. Thank you again for the "Open Bible" edition and also for John's book titled "I'm Not Coming Back." Wishing you and yours a very "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year!" God bless you today and for ever more. W.B. Va.



Dear Salas and all the staff of Little Lambs Inc. Ministry,

I want to wish you a very amazing Christmas and a spectacular New Year with all the members and your families with the presence, peace, love, joy and kindness of our Lord Jesus Christ. Enjoy it to the max with all that good company. I want to thank you like always for all the hard work because not only you are helping us in prison but you **are** Christmas for a lot of people every day and a miracle to someone in need when they need it the most. All of you **are a holiday** every where not just a holiday, you guys do it year round. I thank you because you show Christ Jesus every second of the day to a new person and they change their lives because of the Spirit that dwells within all of you, and they become believers of the Word of truth and life.

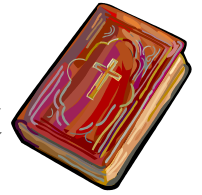
Like I said before I would love to stay in contact after I finish your lessons because you are helping me a lot to reach the goal of being as similar to our Lord as possible and to keep doing His will and not mine. To keep growing and be the right example to other people that are lost as we once were. I thank you for all the encouragement and the notes you send with all those kind and uplifting words. May God keep blessing and protecting and providing for you and your families and that you ministry keeps on growing as well.

The grace and favor of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always and his love as well. Keep doing all that great good works to honor and glorify His blessed and powerful name, God Almighty.

Sincerely from the bottom of my heart, your brother in Christ. JoseGraduate!

Dear Brother and Sister Sala,

I just want to say thank you for your love for the Lord and for your ministry. You guy's have helped me grow in my understanding of the Word and with the discipline I have learned from doing Little Lambs, I can use that in my other studies that I am about to start. In your study and reading through the bible, I learned to seek first the Kingdom of God and everything else will be added on and to pray about every thing. I just want to thank you for the love and the light of hope that y'all give to the men and women of Texas prisons in pointing us to the one that can change our life forever. My the blessing of the Lord be upon you and all the Little Lambs. I will write and send you updates on what's going on in my life.



Brother and Sister, I have this upon my heart, to go out and make sandwiches and chips with soda and candy and share the word with the drug addicts and homeless around my home town in Texas. It is really bad with heroin. There are a lot of hurting people that need to know that there is one that can change their life, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I was holed on heroin when I was out there. I know how it is to lose every thing but thank and praise to the Lord that saved me and I don't wan to do drugs any more. I hate them. Every time that drugs come into my mind the Lord give me a flash back at what my life was like. And all I can say is Glory to God for his grace. I will have to work hard to get the money to do this, but I know that if this is God's will for me, he will provide. Brother and Sister Sala, I received the Bible. Thank you! It is a blessing the Lord knew I was going to need a NKJV for my new study. I will tell others about Little Lams and give them the address so they can get p9ointed in the right direction through your wonderful study. All right, I don't like this but I have to go. Till next time, Rubin *I also sent the letter to Ruben but added that he found the Lord in prison, not while he was using!! So prison is not a bad thing!*

Dear Little Lambs Inc., I would like to introduce myself and thank yu for sending me this wonderful Bible Study. My name is Jason. I am in a Florida prison. I was in a confinement cell with Ronnie and we were discussing our faith and he gave me the address and the sheet (enrollment form) to send ya'll for this study. I thank ya'll from the bottom of my heart for the promptness of sending me my first study, I am still in confinement and Ronnie has since been placed back into open population. The only reason I am in confinement is because they have no beds in open population. I've been in this 8x10 cell now since November 11, just waiting on bed space to open up in General Population. It's been hard on me because I'm really trying to change my life and become a good Christian man, follow the rules and do the right thing. I don't know if this is sent from God or the Devil but I know that the Bible has taught me that what the devil meant to harm me, God can turn it around for good.

I am 50 years old and have been using some sort of chemical to help me cope with my feelings since I was 10 years old. I been in and out of correctional facilities since 1989, high school graduation. I am due to be released from this prison bid on November 25, 2022, roughly 12 months from now. I plan on going to Dunklin Memorial Camp as soon as they will accept me upon my release.

I was a rebellious young man who did not like to be told what to do. Age 10 I started stealing from my mom and stepfathers some alcohol and cigarettes; started smoking pot at 12, crack at 16 and first arrest at 17. I married an alcoholic woman and had 2 daughters then introduced her to crack. She died of an overdose in 2020 while I was in the county jail. These past months have been an emotional roller coaster and I have wanted to give up on life but something keeps pushing me closer to God. I have learned a great deal already from the bible study ya'll have sent me. I am still struggling with negative thoughts. I know I did not create all these bad habits overnight so it will take some time and prayer to get rid of my old sinful nature.

My children have always been in my prayers and up until their mother passed they did not have much to say to me. God does answer prayers because now they are putting money on the phone so we can talk for 30 minutes 2 times a month. I have struggled with my drug addiction since I have been in prison and I know I have to put God first in my life and stop using drugs for myself. If there is any chance for me and my children to have any type of relationship when I get out. So please pray for me. PLEASE! Thank you. *I wrote Jason a letter about the responsibilities of sobriety with others, but especially with the Lord.*

Dear Partners,

2021 has come to a close and I for one, am ready to let it go. Thankfully, very few of our volunteers have had to deal with sickness so we have remained steady throughout the pandemic. However, we are losing volunteers through moves to be nearer to family. This sort of changes things in the office. We are slowly learning to adapt and grow. Our student body has declined somewhat, not since the pandemic, but since winter of last year. I believe that was about the time institutions gave out tablets (mini ipads) to everyone because of the continuous lockdowns and the inability to see their families. Now they can email each other whenever they want, play games, and watch movies. I would guess it is a security issue as well. There are likely to be less security problems if inmates are distracted. Or it may be the 'compassionate release' and changes in policing that release offenders early. Or perhaps it can be because we have a season with a tremendous number of county jail students who are often short stays. Whatever the reason, we continue to send out close to 100 new packets a month and we are seeing an uptick in numbers again. Of course, all these numbers are really faces and hearts when we read their comments and letters.

We have survived our new postage meter, although it's still a little tricky. Financially, we are very grateful for your support. It has enabled us to continue the work of the ministry and refurbish the building. We enjoy our new office and are waiting on help to repair the foundation (sinking) and the south side of the office. We hope that we can do that this year. We need new siding as well on that side of the house.

This year we have had 2 sessions of Marriage and Family Class at Avon Park, currently one in session. About 30 men were very, very interested in the documentary "The Star of Bethlehem" on our last day before Christmas. I have few 'believers' but they are all being exposed to the gospel and Jesus' love for them. I find nothing better than telling them the fact that even while they were trying to kill themselves with drugs and alcohol, the Lord created their bodies to constantly try to save them from the poison, to keep them breathing!

We have been asked several times to start a Marriage and Family Class in the Work Camp and we'll do that this month or early February, the Lord willing. Usually, the men in the Work Camp are low security and soon to go home. No better time to teach them Christian living where the rubber meets the road! Moving to day classes has been good for me, it's not so difficult and I am finding I'd rather not drive at night. Also, there are fewer problems and fewer late starts, so that gives much more time to the gospel and class.

At the Second Chance Ministry, one has graduated and gone home, all the others are learning and growing and happy to be where they are. They are growing as a ministry and have purchased a new large passenger van. Christmas Eve, Directors Aldo and Brenda Guzman hosted a small gathering and gift exchange on the lawn with the men. Please continue to pray for all of them.

Remember, you are the reason we are able to serve the way we do. Your love, prayers, and support make a huge difference in the lives of so many people. It is like throwing a pebble in the water and the ripples reach so very wide. Much love to all of you, my Partners in Ministry.

Eileen Sala

Schedule January 2022
Tues....Biblical Marriage Family & Parenting @ Avon Park Prison
Tues....Purpose Driven Life @ 2nd Chance Ministry
Wed....Biblical Boundaries Marriage & Family with 2nd Chance Ministry
Thurs....Celebrate Recovery @ 2nd Chance Ministry
Counseling by Appointment
863-273-6075



Christmas Eve at Second Chance Ministry